PATENT 11ME-491

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Maurice J. Ouellette, et al.

Art Unit: 2857

Serial No. 09/682,144

Examiner: Paul L. Kim

Filed: July 26, 2001

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE

PROGRAMMING OF AN ELECTRICITY METER

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop: AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition the Patent Office for a three-month extension of time for filing a Notice of Appeal in the above-identified patent application from January 14, 2004, through and including July 14, 2004.

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account 01-2384 in the amount of \$950.00 for payment of the extension now requested. If any additional extension fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384.

Respectfully submitted,

07/16/2004 SSESHE1 00000079 012384 09682144 01 FC:1253

950.00 DA

William J. Zychlewicz Registration No. 51,366

ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600

St. Louis, MO 63102-2740

(314) 621 - 5070